

The West Virginian

Established 1898. Member Associated Press.
THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME.
 PUBLISHED DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY
 by the Fairmont Printing and Publishing Company.
 W. J. WIEGEL, General Manager.
 L. O. BOGGS, Managing Editor.
 A. RAY MAPEL, Advertising Manager.
 C. V. REDIC, Circulation Manager.
 Publication Office, Monroe Street.

TELEPHONES
 Advertising Dept. Bell 158 Cons. 250 Editorial Dept. Bell 64 Cons. 57
 Foreign Advertising Representative, ROBERT E. WARD, Brunswick Bldg., New York. Advertising Bldg., Chicago.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 Daily (by carrier) 40c per month, payable monthly.
 BY MAIL
 Daily, one month ... \$4.00 Daily, six months ... \$22.00
 Daily, three months 1.00 Daily, one year ... \$4.00
 All subscriptions payable in advance.
 When asking for change in address give old as well as new address.
 Entered at the Postoffice at Fairmont, West Virginia, as second class matter.

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TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 27, 1916.

AMERICA FIRST

SOME FACTS ON MEXICO.

MEXICO is an unknown land to many persons who have, nevertheless, absorbed its recent exciting history as if it were a mere movie play. But so far only the plot has attracted attention; correct information about the scenery and the atmosphere of the thrilling drama which may lead this nation into war has been generally overlooked.

Therefore, it is news to most persons that the total available unorganized military force of Mexico is reckoned by military experts to be close to 3,000,000. Statisticians make the estimate by taking a certain percentage of the total population. But army experts state that in any such calculation only 50 to 75 per cent of the "available" are "effectives."

The total of the various "armies" belonging to the republic south of the Rio Grande is difficult to estimate. According to the latest figures compiled the "war strength" consisting of "peace strength" and "reserves" amounts to 86,742. What has been done to increase this number in the last half year has probably brought the total number of the men having some military training to over 125,000.

Mexico does not pretend to support a navy. Her fleet at last accounts was composed of two third-class cruisers and five gun boats, and five torpedo boats.

The area of Mexico is 765,535 square miles or between two and three times that of our largest state, Texas. The agricultural sections belong to the most fertile on the globe, and the climate is such that in parts where irrigation is practiced, two crops can be raised in a season. It is for its gold and silver production that Mexico

excites attention among the nations. The country is a treasury of precious ores. It is said to have produced almost one half of the world's silver in the last 400 years. Sonora, Chihuahua and Durango, names which appear so often in news columns are the richest of the ore-bearing states. In spite of her marvelous natural resources, Mexico's credit has for some time been in a chaotic condition. The country carries a national debt of over \$250,000,000. While her revenue for 1914 was \$84,544,000, her expenditures were \$70,295,000. Her exports (1913) were valued at \$150,202,808 and her imports at \$97,886,169.

Economists say that these figures would be enormously changed to the great advantage of the country if the government were organized in a way to promote her agricultural and industrial activities.

Mexico has something over 15,000 miles of railroads, but cheap fuel is the country's most serious need. Her petroleum output, however, ranks next to that of the United States and Russia, but recent controversies over the concessions to American and British capitalists have prevented its use for the general development of other resources.

According to the census of 1910, 19 per cent of the population were pure white, 43 per cent mixed bloods, and 38 per cent were Indians.

The republic of Mexico consists of 27 states, two territories and one federal district. The state governments are like the federal—divided into three parts, the executive, legislative and judicial. Governors and legislators are supposed to be elected by the people, and the judiciary is appointed.

ALL WORK AND NO PLAY.

LAY is as essential to health as work. A man needs to be shaken up occasionally. He needs to have his heart beat faster and his face flushed at times.

He needs often to breathe deeply and to exert himself to the utmost. Play does all of these things. Furthermore, play takes one out into the open air and sunshine. It takes a man away from his work and worry. It trains mind along with muscle. It develops judgment and will power and makes a bigger, better, longer, happier life.

Why not play a little while today? Do not look upon a play spell as a life preserver, something to be seized only in a sudden breaking up of the health.

If you would avoid trouble, always look for the funny side of a question.

It takes as long to say an unkind word as a pleasant one; pleasant words bring good results, unkind ones pay no dividends; then what's the use of wasting time on them.

The militia is a big help to Cupid. Lots of soldiers, nifty a plenty in a fight, didn't have courage enough to pop the question to their lady loves until the war call came.

"Let the other fellow do it," is popular around recruiting stations. We're glad there are so many other fellows who will do it.

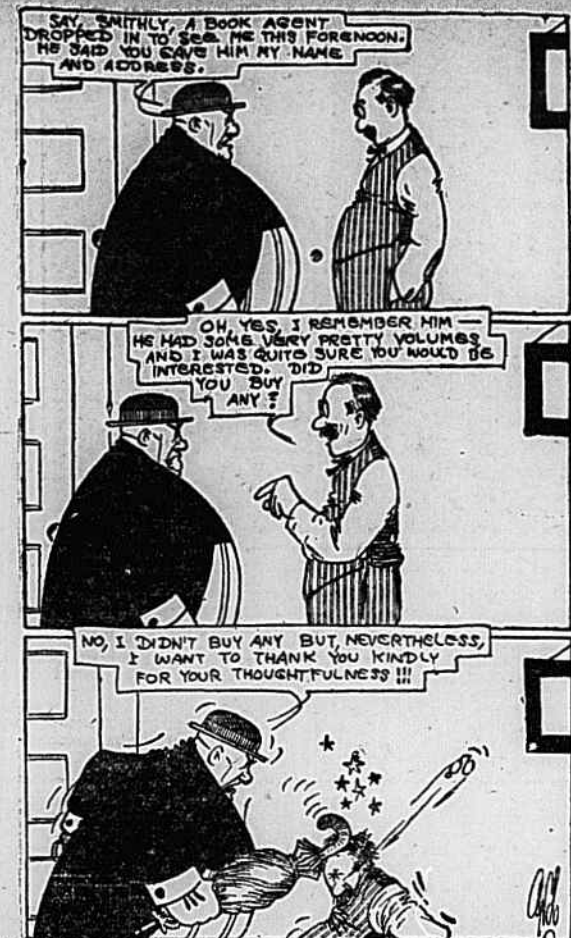
Opportunity is like a waitress who passes you things but once.

The hitching strap of matrimony is often broken by the lash of bad manners.

Your wife may overlook your big faults if you don't overlook your little courtesies to her.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY CONDO.)



BITS OF STATE NEWS

According to Pittsburgh reports a Charleston firm is to build the hull for a new kind of high power pool boat to be used in the waters about Pittsburgh. This boat will have a length of 179 feet, a width of 26 feet and a four-foot hold. It will be single-decked, with triple expansion engines, two boilers and twin screw propellers used as motive power. It will be used to push about a fleet of new steel coal barges being built to carry coal for the Carnegie Steel company from the Monongahela river mines to the new by-products coke plant at Charleston.

Says the Martinsburg Journal, "A crop statement going the rounds of the neighboring press relative to a peach crop shortage in West Virginia, should not leave one under the impression that the crop will be short in this neck of the woods. Unless some unforeseen trouble should afflict orchards in this section the crop will be the biggest in years."

"Fleck Ross," a Wheeling dog which belongs to Dr. W. P. McGrail, who boasts of the record of having traveled more than 30,000 miles in a Ford automobile, had a new experience the other day. That was in being boldly taken away while peacefully reposing in the car over which he is a faithful guard. According to Dr. McGrail, while the physician and his wife were at luncheon, they heard a commotion in the car which was in front of their island home. Directly, the car was seen to speed away in the hands of an unknown chauffeur. Now, "Fleck," rather than desert his post, created a howl, and remained in the car with his unknown companion.

The police and bridge men were notified, and upon the car's arrival at the corner of Tenth and Main streets, Officer Smith held it up until the arrival of Dr. McGrail. No arrests were made.

Citizens of upper Main street, Middlebourne, have had their attention attracted a number of times by what they believe must be a white English sparrow. The bird constantly con sorts with other sparrows, has the sparrow habit of the streets and chirps like the other birds of that species. If it were clean, it would be almost pure white and it has aroused considerable speculation among bird observers.

The Curbstone Gossips now of the Charleston Mail the other day printed the following story:

"Morgan Burdette was a young man at the time of the Civil war. He lived at or near Parkersburg, but most of his relatives were residents of Roane county, prosperous farmers. In 1863, he went up to Roane and was visiting at the home of his aunt, the mother of Frank G. Burdette, county road engineer for Kanawha, to spend a few weeks hunting deer. One morning he was out early and shot two fine specimens. The third one fell in response to a shot from his gun and was apparently dead. Mr. Burdette went up to the fallen quarry, leaving his gun behind, intending to bleed the animal preparatory to skinning it.

"When its head was lifted the deer regained consciousness and began to fight. One of its fore feet struck the hunter on the hand which held the knife and his only weapon was knocked fully a rod away.

"The battle lasted for some time, the hunter being unable to get away from his quarry, but finally he worked his way back to the knife with which he succeeded in stabbing the deer in a vital spot. When Burdette reached the house his appearance was that of a man who had come out second best in a fight with a wildcat.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bad Streets and Official Zeal
 Somewhere in Marion county, June 28.—[Editor West Virginian].—It seems to me that this war between the city and the county over the question of sales in front of the court house is consuming a vast amount of energy on the part of the city administration that might with great benefit to the suffering taxpayers be used in other directions. Not that I approve of holding these sales right where they are an obstruction to traffic and an eye sore to the people who take a pride in the good name of the county seat. That ought to be stopped, but there is no sense in making a fuss over the matter.

If the Board of Affairs were as zealous about the maintenance of the streets inside the corporation limits as it is in this sales matter Fairmont would be a better town to live in. One of my neighbors said today that the reason why the Sheriff telephoned Mayor Bowen to come in and be arrested was that he feared the officers could not get out to the Mayor's place after they left the paved road. I know it to be a fact that the Colfax road inside the corporation contains holes large enough to bury a horse in, while just beyond the line it is in good condition. I myself live near the line but I honestly believe that it is easier for me to go to Morgantown than it is to go to Fairmont.

When the city of Fairmont, in opposition to the people living in the county districts, grabbed a lot of farm land and included it in the corporation limits, it assumed moral if not legal obligations to maintain the highways in a condition as good as they were under the former control. I'll leave it to you to say whether the corporation has made good in this respect. Let me say to the city authorities, Drop the cruel war against the county and fix the roads.

RUSTICUS.

RUFF STUFF

BY RED.

Wonder why they keep on hiring cops?

Perhaps they figure that most of our police will be in jail with the mayor for infringing upon the sacred rights and privileges of the constables.

Did we, or did we not, ever say to Kaiser Wilhelm Hohenzollern, "Disavow or doggone yeh, we'll send another note?"

We wouldn't mind going to war in the third company but we might have to march with a cosmopolitan front rank to march with some Gratonsians who can't be done on the level.

What a generous heart our street commissioner has. He gave the old Locust avenue bricks away yesterday.

Tom Deveny says he can sit on his front stoop and look north by north-west and see a speakeasy.

Which shows that Tom's in on it too.

As has been noticed there is more GAS trouble from the back seat than there is from the soaring prices.

Several employers in the city when interviewed said, "Yes, we'll pay our employees while they're at war." But they had no employees in the Guard.

Married men will probably be excused from duty on the border according to Washington dispatches. A fellow can't even take a little trip to Mexico without first having to get a divorce.

From New York city alone five regiments will go to war. That's three more than the state of West Virginia has but the spirit is no greater.

We bet a nickel to a doughnut there will be no members of the City Council present next Monday night to in-

E. C. Jones
 THE WEST VIRGINIAN
 FAIRMONT, W. VA.

Cottons for Dresses, for Skirts and all Sport Apparel

Never has this store in its existence devoted more attention and invested as much money in dressy cottons as this year.

Never have we shown assortments of as beautiful things—fine cottons at 12 1-2c, 15c, 25c, and up to 50c a yard.

What is bringing the business to this department is the large assortments of the kinds that fashion says is right and women of taste approve—and with the prices that are of interest—the following for example.

Large Assortments of Cotton Voiles at 25c

Beautiful flowered and figured patterns, the fashionable striped effects in black and white or effective border colorings. All the desirable printings—plain and woven cord effects with neat and large all over effects. Every woman who has seen our assortments has pronounced them the handsomest in town.

New Skirtings

medium weight, white with wide striped patterns—colors and black, splendid for outing skirts, coats, etc., 27 to 36 inches wide, 25c and 30c a yard.

Pretty Organdies and Batistes at 12 1/2c and 15c a yard

Pretty woven and printed stripes—black or colors on white grounds, also handsome flowered designs.

White Organdies, Seed Voiles, English Voiles

in plain or striped effects, a good variety to select from. 38 inches wide and priced at 25c, 35c, 40c and 50c per yd.

Corduroy Coatings

in rose, blue and white, gold and white, very fine quality, most desirable for outing apparel, also handsome flowered designs.

WHITE WASHABLE CORDUROY AT 60c YD.

vestigate the ravings of the Fairmont City Liquor ordinance.

Now the British claim they saved Dewey from the Germans at Manila Bay. That may be but our biography of Ananias says nothing about it.

Very Meek.
 "My wife and daughter do many things against my wishes."
 "Hum, I don't presume to have any wishes so far as my woman folks are concerned."

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

Vacation Footwear for Men and Women

Vacation time is calling and here is the footwear that you will need for a trip to the mountains, the shore, or if you stay at home.



A dainty white duck pump \$2.50 to \$3.50.



White duck, low heel also with str. \$2 to \$2.50



A white Kid Colonial Pump at \$5.00.



White duck sport oxford, also shoe \$2. to \$3.50



White duck and Nubuck for men \$2.50 to \$5.50.

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A safe and sure remedy for worms. Stood the test for 50 years. IT NEVER FAILS. To children it is an angel of mercy. PLEASANT TO TAKE. NO SICKNESS. NO PAIN. NO NEED. One bottle has killed 122 worms. All druggists and dealers, or by mail from C. A. VOORHEES, M.D., Phila., Pa.

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4245 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.
 Established 20 years. Removes all drugs from drink and drugs without causing sickness to the patient. If you are interested it will be to your advantage to investigate. Only Keeley Institute in Western Penna.

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WASHINGTON NEWS GOSSIP

By CHARLES BROOKS SMITH.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 27.—Whether John T. McGraw, for twenty odd years the West Virginia member of the National Democratic Committee is to continue to hold that commission a meeting of the State Committee of that party to be held at Parkersburg next Thursday will decide. There is much gossip of a negative kind as to that going on here among the Democrats from West Virginia.

From what can be learned ex-Senator C. W. Watson can succeed McGraw on the committee if he insists on it. It is conceded that he can count absolutely on a majority of the voters. But there is a good-sized opinion that he will not insist on it because he is anxious not to stir up the McGraw faction. The fact is, according to much of the talk going the rounds, one of the principal efforts of the leaders in the forthcoming campaign is going to be in the nature of trying to smooth up the McGraw wing of the party to keep it in line. The defection of that element of the party was manifested in every election succeeding the Watson-Chilton "coup" in the Legislature of 1911, showing itself particularly in the vote for candidate for the legislature in 1912 and in 1914. This year will, however, be the first opportunity that the McGraw faction will have the chance to register what they think of Senator Chilton by the individual and secret ballot. It is common knowledge that Senator Chilton's friends view that with alarm.

Watson's paramount concern in the present situation is by no means on Chilton's account. If that was all Democrats here say, he would walk up and relieve Col. McGraw of his membership on the national committee and let it go at that. It is known that he would like to be a member of that body. It is a political position with lots of "class" to it, and in both parties there is quite an elaborate assortment of millionaires and near-millionaires of the committee. Mr. Watson, it is said, would feel at home there, and he would consider it a bit of good fortune if Col. McGraw would, after his long service conclude that he had had the honor as long as any one man should have it and step down and out, leaving the party free to elect Watson without stirring up any bad feeling. That has been suggested to McGraw, but he hasn't given any sign nor spoken any word that might lead to the belief that he thinks well of the suggestion.

Mr. Watson's prime interest in the Democratic ticket is centered on John J. Cornwell, the party's candidate for governor. Watson and Cornwell have been political and personal intimates for a good many years. They have played the game together, and Watson thinks a great deal of Cornwell,

and it is common knowledge among politicians of both parties that Watson is expected to finance the Cornwell candidacy, and in doing that to carry along the rest of the ticket in a proportionately generous manner, including Senator Chilton. It is because he does not want to do anything to rub up the wounds of the unhappy McGraw contingent of the party that detests "C. W." from passing the word to Parkersburg next Wednesday to come across with the national committee. That is the story as Washington hears it.

For the same reason of finance there are a goodly number of state leaders of Democracy who are spreading broadcast the sentiment that Watson should be made the committee man because the party is expecting so much valuable help from him and his associates in waging its campaign this year and that McGraw, whose party loyalty is unquestioned should get out of the way as gracefully as possible "for the good of the party." And these same men add that McGraw has had the honor for many years and ought to quit satisfied.

There may or may not be a contest at Parkersburg, and the committee may elect McGraw or it may elect Watson. Party leaders here admit very frankly that they do not know, but they are buzzing interested just now in discussing the probabilities.

John J. Cornwell, the gubernatorial candidate, will be at the meeting, and it is expected that he will influence the committee in naming for state chairman the man he wants to manage the campaign. But even in this matter there may be a difference of opinion arising with Senator Chilton. If Cornwell insists on the man he has picked out of the way as gracefully as possible "for the good of the party." And these same men add that McGraw has had the honor for many years and ought to quit satisfied.

outbreak in Mexico that the administration's approval of a bill of that kind at this session had been secured. The most recent developments south of the Rio Grande puts the matter in the doubtful column again, it is believed. Mr. Bowers' bills provide for appropriations for sites and buildings at Keyser, \$150,000, Berkeley Springs, Romney and Moorefield, \$50,000 each.

Congressman Edward Cooper had occasion to call at the War Department. His business was with the Secretary of War himself. He sent in his card.

When he entered there was a very little man at a very large desk pulling away vigorously on a pipe. The little man, who was Secretary of War Newton D. Baker looked up casually from the work he was doing. Then he started with a leap toward Cooper.

"Good Lord, boy! What are you doing here?" Then Baker learned roflteftre. Cl. Then Baker learned for the first time that Cooper had come up from the mines of Mercer county to the halls of Congress.

They were classmates and chums in those good old college days at the Virginia Military Institute. It nearly broke Secretary Baker's heart to turn down his old blue new friend's first official request, and he said so almost tearfully. Cooper wanted another regiment of West Virginia soldiers called to the colors.

Australians Fond of Sugar.
 The Australian commonwealth has the sweetest tooth of all the countries in the world, its annual per-capita consumption of sugar being 169 pounds.



The West Virginian is on sale every evening at the following places:

A. G. MARTIN, Main street.
 BUTCHER & SATERFIELD, Street Car Station.
 WATSON BUILDING NEWS STAND, Main entrance Watson Building.
 CLYDE S. HOLT, Main Street.
 MORAN & SPRINGER, corner Bridge and Water Streets.
 J. H. MCLOSKEY, corner Sixth and Locust avenue.
 HAMILTON DRUG CO., corner Tenth and Virginia avenue.
 JAMES GALLIHER, corner Tenth and Virginia avenue.